

The object definitions would be distributed in the working group specified format, and could be made available expeditiously to outside groups by the NLM. The computer software tools used to implement the object definition would be available to accompany the raw slice data and object definitions. This should facilitate the generation of additional object definitions by outside groups who are studying specific areas of the body.

- Task 2. A hierarchical data base organization and associated retrieval functionality is required for the management of the very large amount of image data created in the Visible Human Project. The specification and implementation of the data base organization is a separate research task, and a successful outcome would involve a working retrieval system that operates at multiple levels and provides ties to additional sets of imagery such as nuclear medicine, ultrasound, histologic slice images, and text.

## References

1. Smith, A.R.: "Geometry and Imaging: Clarifying the major distinctions between the two domains of graphics." *Computer Graphics World*, November 1988.
2. National Library of Medicine. Long Range Plan: Assisting health professionals education through information technology. Report of Panel 5. Bethesda, MD: U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services, Public Health Service, National Institutes of Health; Dec. 1986. 36p.